

**GILA COUNTY CATTLE GROWERS ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**P.O BOX 7**  
**GLOBE, AZ 85502-0007**

November 4, 2005

Bill Brake, President  
ACGA  
1401 N. 24<sup>th</sup> Street #4  
Phoenix, Arizona 85008

Bill,

The Gila County Cattle Growers and their members would like to request that the ACGA and its leadership adopt the following views of proposed inclusions in the 2007 Farm Bill. We are specifically requesting that at the upcoming listening session that these points should be raised as not only the request of producers in Gila County, but also producers in Arizona as a whole.

1. EQIP – EQIP has been a huge success for producers in Gila County on Federal lands. It needs to be expanded to include other Federal Lands in Arizona due to Western agriculture's structure.
2. CSP – (Conservation Security Program) is difficult, if not impossible to qualify Federal lands for. CSP needs to be made available for producers in Arizona on Federal Lands due to rancher's dependency on those lands for grazing.
3. CRMP – (Coordinated Resource Management Planning) needs to be apart of the process on federal lands where EQIP is being used specifically where NEPA is required. NRCS needs to update existing CRMP agreements with Federal and State Agencies across the nation.
4. Ownership and/or control of Western watersheds are fragmented. In regards to resource management, these watersheds need to be seamless. Specifically, in counties like Gila County where there is only 3% private land, all conservation programs like EQIP, CSP, and WHIP should be available to be implemented on Federal Lands.
5. Federal Land Management agencies receive federal dollars that scarcely make it to the ground that benefit the resource. When EQIP, CSP or similar programs are being applied to Federal Lands, the management agency (USFS, BLM) should bear a portion of the funding for those programs.

Implementation of these points would allow for true Coordinated Resource Management Planning, Cooperative Conservation, and Shared Governance on Arizona's range and agricultural lands.

Sincerely,

David L. Cook  
Secretary

**Officers**

John Griffin  
President  
928) 425-2259  
John Fowler  
Vice President  
602) 980-5646  
David Cook  
Secretary  
928) 425-2524  
Jim Rasmussen  
Treasurer  
928) 425-7926  
Jerry Wheeler  
Past President  
928) 425-9634

**Directors**

Steve Bingham  
Edward Blumens  
Bill Brake  
Jale Cline  
Bill Conway  
Liddle Conway  
Dwight Cooper  
Jack Cowan  
James DeWulf  
Nathan Ellison  
Chas. Erickson  
Dan Finn  
Valter Grandham  
Tom Hale  
Mitchell Holder  
John L. Johnson  
Joyce Johnson  
Bill Martin  
Howard J. Norris  
Manuel Ruiz, Jr.  
Dwight Tucker  
James Webb  
Diana Wheeler

**Honorary**

**Directors**

Stephen L. Bixby  
Robert C. Boice  
L. C. Conway  
Roy Hicks  
Robert G. "Pat"  
Gray  
Dendrick Holder  
Larry Huff  
Dwight "Beno"  
Jones  
Lynn Sheppard  
Dwight Dale Tucker  
Van Wilson